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Linus Martorelle as *Amina* in *La Sonnambula*, and of a new Tenor, Mr. W. Coates, as *Masaniello*, both of whom will, we think, prove valuable acquisitions to the company. Mr. J. L. Hatton's new opera, *Rose, or Love's Ransom*, was produced too late for notice in our present number.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

Mr. Harrison has commenced his season at this establishment with much spirit; and although he has not as yet attempted any novelty, the operas he has given have proved exceedingly attractive. Miss Louisa Pyne has essayed the part of *Margherita* in Gounod's *Faust*; and in spite of the many comparisons which must now force themselves upon the audience, has achieved a genuine success. Her voice is excellently fitted for the many delicate portions of the music; and it is only in the parts requiring intense passion that we miss the power to which her predecessor on the same boards has accustomed us. Mr. Sims Reeves is too well known in the character of *Faust* to need comment; and the other parts were only tolerably well filled. We must also mention the successful *début* of Madame Kenneth, who, in spite of a want of freshness of voice so necessary for the unfortunate and consumptive *Traviata*, sufficiently proved that she is a genuine artist. We shall be glad to welcome her in a part more suited for the display of her natural qualifications.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE winter concerts here have proved a decided attraction during the month. The programmes have been varied and always interesting; one of the principal novelties being Mr. Sullivan's *Masque of Kenilworth*. Our opinion of this work has been already given in these pages on its first representation at the Birmingham Festival; and we see no reason to qualify any portion of our remarks on its second performance. The "Moonlight scene," is the only portion of the Cantata betraying the slightest imagination in the young composer; and whatever may be its ultimate fate with the public, it is too feeble in conception and treatment to take a permanent position as a work of art. We are glad to perceive that Herr Manns perseveres in presenting Schumann's Symphonies to an English audience. A mind so original as this composer's has a right to be judged by persons who have learned to think for themselves; and the constant hearing of his works is the best antidote that can be thought of for the adverse criticism so unsparingly used by those who would desire to guide the public mind by their own conventional standard of taste.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

MENDELSSOHN'S *St. Paul* was the Oratorio selected for the first performance of the present season, which took place on Friday, the 25th ult. Mr. Costa's new Oratorio, *Naaman*, will, we are glad to perceive, be shortly presented by this society, when we have no doubt that, under the able direction of the composer, a London audience will have a most favourable opportunity of testing its merits.

THE Polyhymnian Choir, one of the many Choral Societies gradually growing into importance, gave a concert at the Hanover Square Rooms on the 2nd ult., under the direction of Mr. Alfred Gilbert. The principal feature of attraction was the revival of Mr. Edward Loder's Cantata, *The Isle of Calypso*, the hearing of which again raises the question which has so often perplexed us, how it can happen that this composer's right to assume a foremost place amongst English operatic writers should be so strangely overlooked.

ON Monday, Oct. 31st, the North London Sacred Harmonic Society gave a performance of Handel's

Oratorio *Samson*, in Myddelton Hall. The band, under the leadership of Mr. Bent, and the chorus, numbered together nearly 100. The solo parts were sustained by Miss Agnes Flower, Miss Jennerson, Mr. Bliss, Mr. Froome, and Mr. Lawler; Miss Jennerson was deservedly encored in the beautiful contralto solo, "Return, O God of Hosts, The chorus, "Then round about the starry throne," was also encored. The whole reflected great credit on the conductor, Mr. Tomlings, who has trained the band and chorus to their present state of efficiency.

ON Saturday, Oct. 29th, a new organ, built by Mr. H. Jones, for St. Saviour's Church, Chelsea, was opened by Mr. F. Delavanti at the Organ Works, Fulham Road.

A CONCERT of sacred and secular music was given at the Zion New Chapel, Mile End, on Monday, Nov. 7th, to a very large and respectable audience; the pieces selected met with much approval, and many being rendered so well, were rewarded with an encore. The principal vocalists were Miss Sherrard, Misses Hatt, Messrs. Arton, Scuse, Williams, and Bowler; pianiste, Miss Newson; conductor, Mr. E. Allen.

THE City Choral Association gave a concert of sacred and secular music at the Ward School-rooms, Aldersgate Street, on Thursday, the 10th ult. The concert commenced with the "Gloria," from Mozart's 12th Mass; with the exception of this, and a solo, entitled "Ruth," (sung by Miss M. A. Williams) the first part of the programme was selected entirely from the works of Handel. "Honour and arms," *Samson*; and "Why do the nations," *Messiah*, were effectively rendered by Mr. Morris; and "Angels ever bright and fair," was excellently sung by Miss Lacie. The first part concluded with the Hallelujah Chorus. The second part commenced with a violin solo, (a selection from *Il Trovatore*) by Mr. Bent, accompanied on the pianoforte by Miss Bent. Locke's music from *Macbeth* was performed in a spirited manner, the solos being taken by Miss Lacie, Miss N. Bingley, and Mr. Shilton. Mr. Barnard conducted, and Miss Bingley accompanied on the pianoforte and harmonium.

WE have received a letter from Miss Lizzie Wilson, in which she complains that a person bearing, or assuming, her name, has been singing at several concert-rooms in the metropolis. As she believes that this coincidence of names—whether the result of accident or intention—might injure her in her profession, we willingly give publicity to her explanation, especially as she states that she has never sung at any of the concert-rooms mentioned by her namesake.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our Correspondents will greatly oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be responsible for any mistakes which may occur.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

A Notice is sent to all Subscribers whose payment in advance is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscriber neglects to renew. We again remind those who are disappointed in getting back numbers, that only the music pages are stereotyped, and of the rest of the paper, only sufficient are printed to supply the current sale.

Notices of concerts and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence; otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance. All communications must be authenticated by the proper name and address of the writer.

A simple Amateur and Subscriber is advised to apply again to Mr. John D'Este, and he will be sure to receive the book he requires.

Brief Summary of Country News.

ABINGDON.—On Wednesday, Oct. the 26th, the Musical Association held its first meeting for this season, when Mendelssohn's "As the Hart pants" was performed. Mrs. Davis, Messrs. G. F. Glanville, W. Glanville, and W. Tayler were the principal vocalists; and Mr. C. L. Shepherd, director.